

State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt Governor Ted Stewart Executive Director James W. Carter Division Director 355 West North Temple 3 Triad Center, Suite 350 Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203 801-538-5340 801-359-3940 (Fax) 801-538-5319 (TDD)

June 14, 1996

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT P 074 978 987

Jim Butts Butts Mining Company HC 63, Box 120 Monticello, Utah 84535

Re: Site Conditions, Sage Mine, S/037/058, San Juan County, Utah

Dear Mr. Butts:

On May 15, 1996, the Division and BLM performed an inspection of the Sage mine, located in Section 34, T32S, R26E, San Juan County, Utah. A copy of the inspection memo is enclosed. As you will observe from the memo, the Division and BLM have some concerns regarding the conditions of the site. Rule R647-3-112 - Suspension or Termination of Operations- states that all mine operations are required to be maintained in a safe, clean, and environmentally stable condition. Also, in the case of a termination or a suspension of mining operations that has exceeded, or is expected to exceed two years, the operator shall, upon request, furnish the Division with such data as it may require to evaluate the status of the small mining operation and the probable future status of the land affected. The Division may grant an extended suspension period if warranted.

It is our observation that this site is not being kept in an environmentally stable or safe condition. The unsecured powder magazine and the unsecured shop building, could be potentially dangerous to unknowing public unaware of the dangers that may be involved, i.e. possible blasting agents, cyanide, or other chemicals stored on site which are readily accessible. The assorted rubbish is not a safety concern at this time; however, the rules do state the site has to be maintained in a clean, safe, and environmentally stable condition.

By this letter, we are requesting that you remedy these safety concerns within 30 days of your receipt of this letter. Please advise the Division and BLM when this task has been completed. Thank you for your immediate cooperation.

Sincerely,

Anthony A. Gallegos

Senior Reclamation Specialist

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Enclosure: Site Inspection Memo 5/24/96 cc: Ted McDougal, BLM, San Juan RA

S037058.req

JB DOGM S/037/0	58 6/14/96	
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JIM BUTTS BUTTS MINING CO HC 63 BOX 120 MONTICELLO UT 84535	4. Article Number P 074 978 987 Type of Service: Registered Insured COD Express Mail Return Receipt for Merchandise	
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PS Form 3811, Mar. 1988

6-20-96

* U.S.G.P.O. 1988-212-865

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Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210.

Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5861

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